

**REPORT TO THE  
LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**RECRUITMENT OF SUPERIOR GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPONENT  
OF THE  
BOARD OF REGENTS SUPPORT FUND  
FY 2007-08 COMPETITION FOR AWARDS TO BEGIN IN FY 2009-10**

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## INTRODUCTION

**The panel urges each applicant to read the summary relating to the submitted proposal that is included in this report, which contains indications as to how the proposal was judged. Most summaries, more importantly, also offer suggestions to help applicants design proposals for future competitions in the Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students Program.**

The review panel for the Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students Program met in Baton Rouge on February 22 and 23, 2008, to discuss and make funding recommendations relative to proposals submitted in the FY 2007-08 competition for awards to begin in FY 2009-10. Members of the panel were Dr. John Mayfield (Chair), Iowa State University; Dr. Roger Chalkley, Vanderbilt University Medical School; Dr. Charles Ambler, University of Texas, El Paso; and Dr. Suzanne Ortega, University of Washington.

Seven (7) institutions submitted a total of twenty-seven (27) proposals within the disciplines eligible for this year's competition in the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program. Two (2) universities submitted a total of two (2) proposals in the Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program. In some cases two or more departments within an academic unit submitted a single proposal.

Prior to arriving in Baton Rouge, consultants individually read and evaluated each proposal according to the guidelines provided by the Louisiana Board of Regents in the FY 2007-08 Graduate Fellows Request for Proposals. Each consultant assigned a preliminary ranking to each proposal before the March meeting. Preliminary composite scores were then computed. These composite scores facilitated discussions at the February meeting.

After thorough discussion of the merits of each proposal, the consultants established a rank order for all of the proposals and recommended monetary levels for the awards according to established criteria for budgetary cogency. Recommendations were made consistent with the limits of available funding as determined by the Board of Regents. Final composite scores assigned to the proposals ranged from 67 to 85 out of a maximum of 100. The panel did not recommend funding for those proposals receiving scores of less than 75. A total of \$900,000 available in first-year monies was recommended for expenditure.

The total amount of first-year funds requested in the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program was \$2,155,700. The Graduate Fellowships for Teachers proposals requested total first-year funds of \$190,000. Consultants were advised that \$720,000 was allotted for the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program and \$180,000 for the Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program. The panel was also advised that any funds not committed to proposals submitted for the latter program should be recommended for expenditure under the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program, assuming that a sufficient number of meritorious proposals had been submitted to warrant the transfer.

The panel recommends that nineteen (19) of the twenty-seven (27) proposals submitted under the Traditional Graduate Fellows Program and two (2) proposals submitted under the Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program be funded in the amounts specified in Appendix A. Appendix B consists of brief narrative summaries of the panel's assessment of each proposal submitted and Appendix C contains a listing of all proposals submitted under each program.

The cumulative requests substantially exceed the total amount of funding available. Panel members made every effort to keep recommendations within established funding limitations as well as in accordance with the collective assessment of each proposal's individual merits. Reviewers sought to ascertain the degree to which each award could bring about the successful recruitment of superior graduate students. Such efforts are

consistent with the goal of enhancing the overall quality of higher education in and the social, cultural and economic development of the State of Louisiana. Moreover, panel members considered in each case whether the dollar value of the requested fellowship stipend would ensure each program's competitiveness with comparable institutions and accord with past recruiting efforts. In a few cases, requested stipend levels were reduced for consistency across programs and to accommodate budget constraints. In each case, stipend levels remain nationally competitive.

Once again, the four panel members commend all involved in this ongoing endeavor to elevate the level of graduate study in Louisiana's institutions of higher education. The members of the panel, collectively and individually, also wish to express their sincere appreciation to the staff of the Louisiana Board of Regents for their aid and support in the completion of this task.

### **Panel Recommendations and Suggestions:**

- Again this year, in several proposals the statistics provided in the required tables did not match information provided in the narrative sections of the proposal. This led to confusion and frustration on the part of reviewers attempting to interpret and make recommendations based on this data. Applicants are strongly urged to ensure that data are correct and consistently presented in all parts of the proposal.
- Applicants continue to have problems filling out the required tables correctly and providing all required information. When the number “enrolled” or “matriculated” is larger than the number accepted, when averages do not fall between highs and lows, and when “under-represented minority” is not clearly defined, it is difficult for the panel to assess programs. **The data requested in each table are essential to the panel’s evaluation of proposals.** Applicants are, therefore, urged to provide all required information fully and comprehensibly.
- The panel noted again this year that several proposals contained data, documentation, and examples of eminence that were either out-of-date or no longer relevant to the featured program's argument for graduate fellowship support. In light of this, the panel strongly recommends that all programs review their proposals and eliminate old data and out-of-date or irrelevant narrative segments. In fact, a newly written or extensively revised proposal often offers an up-to-date perspective to the panel that renders the information more useful and in turn provides the panel with a clear understanding of the program as it is operating at the time of the proposal’s submission. Data and information provided should be restricted to the last ten (10) years.
- Once again, several proposals submitted in this competition provided names and personal information for students in and graduates of programs seeking funding. **This practice is inappropriate and, in some cases, illegal.** Further, a proposal is not strengthened in any way by the inclusion of student names and personal information. Applicants are urged to maintain the anonymity of students.
- The panel is taking a strong stand against combined GRE scores. This position is taken directly from ETS guidelines which are very clear that this is a misuse of test results. This document may be found on the ETS website, at <http://www.ets.org/Media/Tests/GRE/pdf/994994.pdf>. Standardized test scores can be a useful component of a comprehensive student assessment, but admissions committees must understand and acknowledge the relevance of the different testing categories to particular disciplines. This year the use of combined scores resulted in reduced scoring by the reviewers.
- There continues to be a problem with the definition of “under-represented minority”. Asian American and all non-citizens are not generally categorized as under-represented. The panel encourages the Board of

Regents to require applicants to use the standard definition set by federal agencies in next year's competition.

- When multiple departments/units apply together, data should be combined for all the programs involved, and not presented separately.
- Economic development is very important to the Board of Regents Support Fund and to the Graduate Fellows panel. Most proposals can be improved by providing specific examples in addition to generalities in their descriptions of economic development potential.
- Proposals are enhanced by clear and systematic mentoring plans that are coupled with meaningful benchmarks and timelines for satisfactory progress. Descriptions of resources available to students who fall behind or fail to meet benchmarks should be included in addition to the statements indicating penalties.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING**

**TABLE I**

**Louisiana Board of Regents Support Fund  
 Traditional Graduate Fellows Program and Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program  
 Proposals Recommended for Funding  
 FY 2007-08 Cycle for Awards to Begin in FY 2009-10**

| <b>RANK</b> | <b>PROP. NO.</b> | <b>SCHOOL</b> | <b>DISCIPLINE</b>   | <b>LENGTH/<br/>TYPE OF PROGRAM</b> | <b>NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS RECOMMENDED</b> | <b>ANNUAL STIPEND AMOUNT</b> | <b>YEAR</b>               | <b>TOTAL BoRSF MONEY RECOMMENDED</b>                                 | <b>CUMULATIVE AMOUNT OF 1st YEAR AWARDS</b> |
|-------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| 1           | 007GF-09         | LSU-BR        | BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES | 4 YR. DOC                          | 2  | \$ 25,000                    | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br><u>\$ 50,000</u><br>\$200,000 | \$50,000                                    |
| 2           | 008GF-09         | LSU-BR        | CHEMISTRY           | 4 YR. DOC                          | 1  | \$ 30,000                    | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 30,000<br>\$ 30,000<br>\$ 30,000<br><u>\$ 30,000</u><br>\$120,000 | \$80,000                                    |
| 3           | 020GF-09         | TUHSC         | BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES | 4 YR. DOC                          | 2  | \$ 28,000                    | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 56,000<br>\$ 56,000<br>\$ 56,000<br><u>\$ 56,000</u><br>\$224,000 | \$136,000                                   |
| 4           | 003GF-09         | LSU-BR        | ENGINEERING         | 4 YR. DOC<br><br>2 YR. MASTER'S    | 1<br><br>1                               | \$ 25,000<br><br>\$ 20,000   | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 45,000<br>\$ 45,000<br>\$ 25,000<br><u>\$ 25,000</u><br>\$140,000 | \$181,000                                   |
| 5           | 027GF-09         | UNO           | ARTS                | 3 YR. MASTER'S                     | 3  | \$ 15,000                    | 1<br>2<br>3<br>TOTAL      | \$ 45,000<br>\$ 45,000<br><u>\$ 45,000</u><br>\$135,000              | \$226,000                                   |

| RANK | PROP. NO. | SCHOOL  | DISCIPLINE                | LENGTH/<br>TYPE OF PROGRAM | NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS RECOMMENDED | ANNUAL STIPEND AMOUNT | YEAR                      | TOTAL BoRSF MONEY RECOMMENDED  | CUMULATIVE AMOUNT OF 1st YEAR AWARDS |
|------|-----------|---------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 6    | 002GF-09  | LSU-BR  | PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY       | 4 YR. DOC                  | 2                                 | \$ 25,000             | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br><u>\$ 50,000</u><br>\$200,000 | \$276,000                            |
| 7    | 013GF-09  | LA TECH | HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES | 4 YR. DOC                  | 2                                 | \$ 25,000             | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br><u>\$ 50,000</u><br>\$200,000 | \$326,000                            |
| 8    | 017GF-09  | TULANE  | SOCIAL SCIENCES           | 4 YR. DOC                  | 2                                 | \$ 19,000             | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 38,000<br>\$ 38,000<br>\$ 38,000<br><u>\$ 38,000</u><br>\$152,000 | \$364,000                            |
| 9    | 015GF-09  | TULANE  | CHEMISTRY                 | 4 YR. DOC                  | 1                                 | \$ 28,000             | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 28,000<br>\$ 28,000<br>\$ 28,000<br><u>\$ 28,000</u><br>\$112,000 | \$392,000                            |
| 10   | 009GF-09  | LSU-BR  | EARTH & ENVIRO. SCIENCES  | 4 YR. DOC                  | 2                                 | \$ 26,000             | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 52,000<br>\$ 52,000<br>\$ 52,000<br><u>\$ 52,000</u><br>\$208,000 | \$444,000                            |

| RANK | PROP. NO. | SCHOOL       | DISCIPLINE                | LENGTH/<br>TYPE OF PROGRAM      | NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS RECOMMENDED | ANNUAL STIPEND AMOUNT      | YEAR                      | TOTAL BoRSF MONEY RECOMMENDED  | CUMULATIVE AMOUNT OF 1st YEAR AWARDS |
|------|-----------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 11   | 023GF-09  | UL LAFAYETTE | BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES       | 4 YR. DOC                       | 2                                 | \$ 25,000                  | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br><u>\$ 50,000</u><br>\$200,000 | \$494,000                            |
| 12   | 019GF-09  | TUHSC        | HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES | 4 YR. DOC                       | 1                                 | \$ 28,000                  | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 28,000<br>\$ 28,000<br>\$ 28,000<br><u>\$ 28,000</u><br>\$112,000 | \$522,000                            |
| 13   | 010GF-09  | LSUHSC-NO    | HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES | 4 YR. DOC                       | 1                                 | \$ 25,000                  | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 25,000<br>\$ 25,000<br>\$ 25,000<br><u>\$ 25,000</u><br>\$100,000 | \$547,000                            |
| 14   | 026GF-09  | UNO          | BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES       | 4 YR. DOC                       | 1                                 | \$ 26,000                  | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 26,000<br>\$ 26,000<br>\$ 26,000<br><u>\$ 26,000</u><br>\$104,000 | \$573,000                            |
| 15   | 016GF-09  | TULANE       | ENGINEERING               | 4 YR. DOC                       | 2                                 | \$ 25,000                  | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br>\$ 50,000<br><u>\$ 50,000</u><br>\$200,000 | \$623,000                            |
| 16   | 001GF-09  | LSU-BR       | ARTS                      | 4 YR. DOC<br><br>3 YR. MASTER'S | 1<br><br>2                        | \$ 16,000<br><br>\$ 16,000 | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 48,000<br>\$ 48,000<br>\$ 48,000<br><u>\$ 16,000</u><br>\$160,000 | \$671,000                            |

| RANK | PROP. NO. | SCHOOL       | DISCIPLINE                      | LENGTH/<br>TYPE OF PROGRAM | NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS RECOMMENDED | ANNUAL STIPEND AMOUNT | YEAR                      | TOTAL BoRSF MONEY RECOMMENDED  | CUMULATIVE AMOUNT OF 1st YEAR AWARDS |
|------|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 17   | 021GF-09  | UL LAFAYETTE | COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES | 4 YR. DOC                  | 1                                 | \$ 25,000             | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 25,000<br>\$ 25,000<br>\$ 25,000<br><u>\$ 25,000</u><br>\$100,000 | \$696,000                            |
| 18   | 005GF-09  | LSU-BR       | HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES       | 4 YR. DOC                  | 1                                 | \$ 25,000             | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 25,000<br>\$ 25,000<br>\$ 25,000<br><u>\$ 25,000</u><br>\$100,000 | \$721,000                            |
| 19   | 014GF-09  | LA TECH      | ENGINEERING                     | 4 YR. DOC                  | 1                                 | \$ 25,000             | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>TOTAL | \$ 25,000<br>\$ 25,000<br>\$ 25,000<br><u>\$ 25,000</u><br>\$100,000 | \$746,000                            |
| 1    | 002GFT-09 | MCNEESE      | EDUCATION                       | 1 YR. MASTER'S             | 2                                 | \$ 23,000             | 1<br>TOTAL                | <u>\$ 46,000</u><br>\$ 46,000  | \$792,000                            |
| 2    | 001GFT-09 | LSU-BR       | EDUCATION                       | 1 YR. MASTER'S             | 6                                 | \$ 18,000             | 1<br>TOTAL                | <u>\$108,000</u><br>\$108,000  | \$900,000                            |

## TABLE II

### SUPPORT FUND GRADUATE FELLOWS PROGRAM PROPOSALS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING

| PROPOSAL # | SCHOOL       | ELIGIBLE DISCIPLINE             |
|------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 004GF-09   | LSU-BR       | COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES |
| 006GF-09   | LSU-BR       | SOCIAL SCIENCES                 |
| 011GF-09   | LA TECH      | ARTS                            |
| 012GF-09   | LA TECH      | SOCIAL SCIENCES                 |
| 018GF-09   | TULANE       | PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY             |
| 022GF-09   | UL LAFAYETTE | SOCIAL SCIENCES                 |
| 024GF-09   | UL LAFAYETTE | HEALTH & MEDICAL SCIENCES       |
| 025GF-09   | UNO          | SOCIAL SCIENCES                 |

## **APPENDIX B**

### **NARRATIVE ASSESSMENTS**

**COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS SUBMITTED UNDER THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
SUPPORT FUND PROGRAMS FOR TRADITIONAL GRADUATE FELLOWS AND  
GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS FOR TEACHERS**

**001GF-09            LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“Board of Regents Fellowships in the Arts”**  
**Requested:    4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$16,000/annum for 4 years**  
**4 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$16,000/annum for 3 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$16,000/annum for 4 years**  
**2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$16,000/annum for 3 years**  
**TOTAL AWARD = \$160,000**

LSU’s School of Music and Department of Theater have joined in this proposal for fellowships in four terminal degree programs: the MFA in Theater, the DMA in Music, and the PhD in Music and Theater. The music and theater programs at LSU Baton Rouge have strong reputations within the State and beyond. It is clear that they make a very important contribution to the cultural life of Baton Rouge and Louisiana, notably through activities conducted through Swine Palace. These programs have substantial enrollments and appear to draw students nationally. Between the two units there are more than 70 faculty members, many of whom have substantial reputations as performers/practitioners or as scholars. The programs seem to have strong records of recruiting, retaining and graduating previous BoR fellows. The proposal does not, however, provide a clear plan for aggressive recruiting, particularly of minority students. Existing minority enrollments are low. The proposal argues that recruiting a cohort of fellows would have a powerful impact on program quality, but there is little indication as to how the fellows would be integrated in the various programs, what linkages there are among them, and what specific efforts are made to support and retain all students. The proposal would be more compelling if specific information was provided on students’ placement and more broadly on the important role that the program plays in economic development in the State. Funding is recommended for one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$16,000 per year and two (2) three-year master’s-level fellowships at \$16,000 each per year.

**002GF-09            LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“Graduate Fellows in Physics and Astronomy”**  
**Requested:    3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years = \$200,000 TOTAL**

The Physics and Astronomy Department at LSU has a strong faculty with good records of research productivity. The standard graduate student stipend of \$14,900 per year provided by the department seems low and may not be competitive with similar programs across the country. In spite of this, efforts to recruit U.S. students are showing success, which suggests the academic strength of the department. The proposal does not, however, clearly delineate this potential strength. Various data tables are not filled in correctly (i.e., Form 11-GF does not agree with Section B. Section A is incorrectly completed, and Section C cites the same stipend for the academic year as for summer). The economic impact statement could be stronger. Adding a PhD in Medical physics seems like a good idea, and may strengthen a focus supported at the master’s level by the Board of Regents for several years. Despite problems with the proposal, this is a solid program worthy of support. Funding is recommended for two (2) doctoral-level fellowships at \$25,000 each per year.

**003GF-09      LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“Board of Regents Fellowships in Engineering 2009-14”**  
**Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**  
**2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$20,000/annum for 2 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**  
**1 Master’s-Level Fellowship at \$20,000/annum for 2 years**  
**TOTAL AWARD = \$140,000**

This is a well written and thoughtful proposal from LSU’s College of Engineering. It is clear that the College is an important economic development engine for Louisiana. An apparent decline in applications at the PhD level continues to be of concern. More high-quality minority students could significantly increase diversity and possibly the number of U.S. students in the program. While the proposal provides a good description of how BoR fellowships will be distributed within an extremely large conglomeration of departments and units, the proposal needs to make a stronger case for how a small number of fellowships can make a significant impact on the entire college. Funding is recommended for one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$25,000 per year and one (1) two-year master’s-level fellowship at \$20,000 per year.

**004GF-09      LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“Recruitment of Superior Students to the Doctoral Program in Areas of Biomedical Information Processing: Data Fusion, Visualization and High-Speed Networking”**  
**Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: - 0 -**

The proposal is focused on recruiting students to the bio-information processing and data fusion sub-sections of the Department of Computer Science. There is no discussion of how recruiting will be focused on and limited to these areas; in fact, the recruiting section of the proposal does not provide a strategy for this at all. Several aspects of the proposal appear not to have been recently updated. Moreover, in some tables the proposal continues the use of combined (verbal plus quantitative) GRE scores. As the panel has noted for several years, this practice is expressly prohibited by ETS in its documents detailing fair use of test scores and should be corrected. The proposal narrative and the various tables provide different and conflicting data, making it difficult for the panel to develop a clear understanding of the program; the panel had difficulty even determining the number of PhD students enrolled in the program. On the whole, the panel found this proposal to be poorly prepared and internally contradictory. No funding is recommended.

**005GF-09      LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“Graduate Studies in Comparative Biomedical Sciences, Pathobiological Sciences, and Veterinary Clinical Sciences”**  
**Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$25,000/annum for 4 years = \$100,000 TOTAL**

This proposal from the LSU Veterinary School requests funding for a group of basic science departments which have oriented their recruiting into a central system. This allows the participating departments to focus all of their resources toward attracting excellent students. They have succeeded in maintaining and recruiting a diverse range of students, and have maintained about 67 students in a steady state for at least 5 years. The panel was, however, very concerned about the process of recruiting for diversity. Although it is required, there was no section in the proposal documenting their recruiting strategies related to under-represented minority students. In addition, the data in the tables were confusing, making it difficult to determine whether the percentages of minority enrollment were calculated based on the total number of students in the program, or just on U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Confusion on this issue reduced the panel’s enthusiasm for this proposal. Other data yielded a more positive response. From the table showing annual graduation rates it was possible to infer two things: the level of attrition is low and the time to degree is approximately five years. These two criteria are sufficiently encouraging to recommend continued support. Funding is recommended for one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$25,000 per year.

**006GF-09            LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“The Need for Support of the Economics Program”**  
**Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: - 0 -**

This department has a strong history of faculty research productivity that has waned somewhat in recent years. While the proposal builds a case that strong doctoral students are necessary to enhance the scholarly productivity of the department, there is no clear plan for leveraging BoR fellowships or otherwise using this type of fellowship support to achieve the goal of attracting superior students. The U.S. applicant pool is quite small, and the proposal gives little attention to how an innovative recruitment strategy might be used to expand this pool, especially for students from diverse backgrounds. Although the program has clear potential for significant contributions to economic development, the case is not clearly articulated nor is there any plan to recruit BoR fellows into those areas likely to have the greatest impact to State economic or labor force development needs. The panel would also have liked to see clear evidence of a mentoring plan linked to satisfactory progress standards that are more than a simple listing of tests and degree requirements. Information on the placements of recent graduates would also be helpful in determining program quality and success. No funding is recommended.

**007GF-09            LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“Graduate Fellowships in Biological Sciences at Louisiana State University”**  
**Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years = \$200,000 TOTAL**

This was a strongly written, well developed proposal from the Department of Biological Sciences at LSU. The department has an active and highly funded faculty which is focused on graduate education. The department has increased the number of graduate students by about 40% over the last five years. Although the proposal's data tables contained somewhat contradictory numbers, it seems clear that the program is comprised of at least 50% international students. The entering GRE scores are good, demonstrating the general quality of the student population. The level of attrition in general, and of BoR fellows in particular, is relatively low. On average over several years, approximately 8% of recruits are under-represented minorities, and strategies for increasing minority recruitment are somewhat embryonic. The time to degree is acceptable but could be reduced through an aggressive focus on this issue. The strategies to monitor student academic progress, while relatively conventional, are appropriate. Funding is recommended for two (2) doctoral-level fellowships at \$25,000 each per year.

**008GF-09            LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“Graduate Fellowships in Chemistry for 2009”**  
**Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$30,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$30,000/annum for 4 years = \$120,000 TOTAL**

LSU's Chemistry Department has been highly successful, and has a well-funded faculty, strong cohort of graduate students and an excellent record of minority recruitment and retention. These strengths indicate that continued funding is warranted. The panel continues to be concerned, however, about retention and time-to-degree issues. For the department in general it is possible to analyze retention and time to degree from table 11-GF. Based on the data provided in the proposal, over the last five years only 10-12% of the total students graduate in any given year. For a six-year PhD, one would expect around 18% to graduate. Thus, either attrition is substantial or the time to degree is unacceptably long, or there is a combination of part of both. Additional concerns are raised by the experience of BoR fellows. Since 1998 this department has had 20 BoR awards. Only four students have graduated, while six students have left the program. Ten students are still in the program but no student has graduated since 2002, despite receiving BoR support every year. Even more telling is the section in the proposal on “Mentoring and Student Tracking”, which included an extended account of the personal issues which led to this disturbing attrition, but outlined no new or creative ideas for addressing the problem. It is clear that serious attention needs to be paid to highly focused and sympathetic mentoring. While personal issues can become paramount for students and often cannot be overcome, careful and continuous mentoring might help reduce attrition and should be a focus of the graduate program's leadership. Funding is recommended for one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$30,000 per year.

**009GF-09            LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Earth, Ocean and Environmental Sciences”**  
**Requested: 5 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$26,000/annum for 4 years**  
**4 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$24,000/annum for 2 years**

**Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$26,000/annum for 4 years = \$208,000 TOTAL**

The proposal from Earth, Ocean and Environmental Sciences at LSU-BR involves a robust set of programs including almost 60 faculty members, most of whom have substantial records of publication and external funding. These research areas are clearly of enormous importance in Louisiana, as reflected in the planned 2008 University cluster hiring initiative in coastal systems. The constituent departments are strategically placed to capitalize on anticipated major research efforts linked to coastal regions and natural disasters. The proposal, however, could provide more detailed evidence of a coherent, interdisciplinary training or research program to capitalize on this. Funding is requested to support both master’s and doctoral students: the MS and PhD are offered in Geology and Geophysics and Oceanography, and the MS in Environmental Sciences. These programs seem to have attracted well qualified students, most of whom complete the programs in a timely manner. There is a good record of retention of previous fellows, many of whom appear to have had impressive records of publication. It is unclear, however, how fellowships would leverage expanded pools of applicants and permit greater selectivity. This is particularly the case for the professional master’s programs in these areas. The proposal does not provide a convincing argument for the support of students in the master’s program. The commitment to minority recruitment is admirable but no clear plan is presented to attract highly qualified minority applicants. Funding is recommended for two (2) doctoral-level fellowships at \$26,000 each per year; no support is recommended for master’s-level fellowships.

**010GF-09            LSU HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER – NEW ORLEANS**  
**“Graduate Training in Integrative Pharmacological Sciences and Therapeutics”**  
**Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$25,000/annum for 4 years = \$100,000 TOTAL**

This small program at LSUHSC-NO seems to have survived Hurricane Katrina better than many. The faculty was retained, for the most part, and those who stayed continued to be productive and to maintain NIH support. The program maintains a steady enrollment of approximately 20 integrative pharmacology students, and graduates two to three students each year. While the small size of the program makes it difficult to generate reliable interpretations of the data, it appears that attrition is low and the time to degree is six to seven years. The diversity issue is extremely hard to gauge in such a small program. For a program with average under-represented minority participation of approximately 7-8%, a graduation rate of two such students over five years is a bit low, but not unreasonable. The overall education program is extremely traditional, and appears to be overloaded with basic courses. Given the challenges of recent years, this program might have an excellent opportunity to redesign not only the administration of the program, but also the content and structure of the workings of the training activities. Funding is recommended for one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$25,000 per year.

**011GF-09            LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**“Five MFA Program Graduate Fellowships”**  
**Requested: 5 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$10,000/annum for 3 years**

**Recommended: - 0 -**

The Arts program at Louisiana Tech has a long history of serving arts institutions and education in the northern Louisiana region. The MFA is a three-year terminal degree program with concentrations in communication design, photography and studio art. The 17 faculty members are active artists with strong records of exhibition or commercial work. The program was designated in 2004 as a Board of Regents area of excellence. Graduates of the program hold academic positions in a number of universities in the region or have careers as artists. Unfortunately, there has been a decline in the number of applicants in recent years and the program has had little success attracting minority students. The proposal presents an argument for recruiting students regionally, and intends to use the

fellowships to encourage applications as well as to support outstanding students. The request is for five fellowships at \$10,000 each, but the proposal does not make clear how support at this minimal level would generate applications and increase enrollments. The MFA program currently has only 13 students, dispersed among the three focus areas. There is little indication of how BoR fellows would be mentored. Arts programs like this one often play pivotal roles in the cultural life of communities and regions, and this proposal would be strengthened by a persuasive explanation of the role of the program in economic development. No funding is recommended.

**012GF-09      LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**“Meeting the Competition: Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students for the PhD Program in Counseling Psychology”**  
**Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$20,800/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: - 0 -**

The primary concerns about Louisiana Tech’s Counseling Psychology program stem from its small size and shrinking applicant pool, a trend which is not seen at almost any other university offering clinical or counseling psychology programs. In part, this lack of depth in the applicant pool probably stems from the absence of an innovative plan for recruitment. This is particularly troubling with respect to efforts to encourage students from under-represented minority groups to apply, where successes should be possible but are virtually non-existent. While the case is made that students are providing important services through the counseling center, little attention is given to the possible broader economic development impact of the program or its graduates. No funding is recommended.

**013GF-09      LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**“Graduate Fellows in Biomedical Engineering”**  
**Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years = \$200,000 TOTAL**

The Biomedical Engineering program at Louisiana Tech has an impressive interdisciplinary structure and appears to be the “crown jewel” of the College of Engineering. The increasing enrollment of students with good GRE scores is noted, and it is likely that BoR support will help the program to continue its growth. The pledged \$5,000 match for each BoR fellowship is applauded. The lack of health insurance coverage for fellowship recipients is an issue that the program must address if it wants to be competitive on a national level. Minority recruitment efforts should be improved. The economic development impact as described in the proposal is adequate, but could be stronger given the nature of the program. Funding is recommended for two (2) doctoral-level fellowships at \$25,000 each per year.

**014GF-09      LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**“Superior Graduate Fellows in Engineering”**  
**Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$25,000/annum for 4 years = \$100,000 TOTAL**

This proposal for more general support of the College of Engineering at Louisiana Tech is less compelling than the submission for support of Biomedical Engineering. The interdepartmental structure is innovative, but 23 total and eight U.S. applications indicate a deep problem with recruitment. Moreover, the applicant pool appears to be declining. The program also seems somewhat duplicative of the Biomedical Engineering program, including seven of the eight faculty members identified in 013GF-09. GRE scores of students in the program remain fairly high. The number of under-represented minority students enrolled is very low, suggesting a lack of serious effort in recruitment. The \$5,000 institutional match for each fellowship is laudable. Funding is recommended for one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$25,000 per year.

**015GF-09 TULANE UNIVERSITY**  
**“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Chemistry”**  
**Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$28,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$28,000/annum for 4 years = \$112,000 TOTAL**

Tulane’s Chemistry Department seems to be well on its way toward recovery after Hurricane Katrina. The graduate program is small, and has never exceeded around 50 students. A few students graduate with MS degrees, but it is not clear whether the MS is available as a goal in itself or if it is offered to those who are not permitted or not able to complete the PhD. The program is highly conventional in structure: a heavy course load early in the program, followed by a focus on research. The success of BoR fellows was mixed over the last decade, with a significant degree of attrition. Indeed, the program as a whole has only graduated three minority students over the five years reported in table 11-GF, even though they report a steady enrollment of five to six such students. Again, this is an indicator of significant attrition. Given this concern, the panel would like to see a more creative discussion of mentoring and retention, which is lacking in this proposal. As described in the application, the department plans to look at performance and convene committees; these activities seem minimal for a program with attrition problems. Nevertheless, the strength of the department and its potential for improvement warrant BoR support. Funding is recommended for one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$28,000 per year.

**016GF-09 TULANE UNIVERSITY**  
**“Graduate Fellowships in Support of Biomedical and Chemical/Biomolecular Engineering Education and Research”**  
**Requested: 6 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$24,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years = \$200,000 TOTAL**

The two programs for which funding is sought are the only remaining engineering programs at Tulane. The panel notes the proposal’s request to partner with the Board of Regents in the rebuilding of the programs to national eminence and hopes that by next year signs of growing strength will start to be evident. The economic impact statement is vague while the economic impact vision is good. There is no discussion of how BOR funds will be divided between the two departments. The panel commends the plans to collaborate with Xavier University and local community colleges; this activity should assist the departments in their efforts to grow as well as provide necessary support to other institutions in the region. The panel believes the requested stipend is insufficient to make the program competitive for the best prospective students. Thus, the panel recommends a slightly higher stipend of \$25,000 per student, which should be more competitive with similar programs seeking exceptional students. BoR support could provide tangible assistance to these programs in their efforts to rebuild and regain national eminence. Funding is recommended for two (2) doctoral-level fellowships at \$25,000 each per year.

**017GF-09 TULANE UNIVERSITY**  
**“Recruitment of Superior Graduates in Psychology”**  
**Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$18,500/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$19,000/annum for 4 years = \$152,000 TOTAL**

Tulane’s Psychology Department has implemented a well-conceived plan for hiring faculty and rebuilding the program, post-Katrina, which bodes well for further progress in attaining national eminence. The program has a well-established record of successfully graduating and placing students, including previous BoR fellows. The program’s commitment to diversity is evident in its use of BoR fellowships to support under-represented minority applicants as well as in its recent successes in increasing the diversity of applicants and enrollees. The thoughtful use of a more “holistic” approach to selection criteria is an asset to this proposal, as is the availability of summer stipend support. The application could be additionally strengthened by presenting a stronger argument with regard to the economic development implications of the program and its doctoral graduates. Funding is recommended for two (2) doctoral-level fellowships at \$19,000 each per year. The slightly higher than requested stipend level will align funding for students in this program more closely with other Tulane doctoral programs.

**018GF-09 TULANE UNIVERSITY**  
**“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Physics and Engineering Physics”**  
**Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: - 0 -**

The panel was unable to develop a clear impression of the program because of poor proposal preparation. Much of the information and data presented in the proposal seem out of date, and data presented in the tables sometimes did not match those cited in the text of the proposal. Some of the required tables were not completed. Given the absence of a clear picture of the health and potential of the department, the panel does not recommend funding.

**019GF-09 TULANE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**  
**“Predoctoral Training in Biomedical Sciences”**  
**Requested: 4 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$28,500/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$28,000/annum for 4 years = \$112,000 TOTAL**

This is a reasonable proposal from the integrated Biomedical Science program at Tulane. It is clear that the participating departments are relatively strong and the graduate programs successful. Despite the panel’s overall enthusiasm, it was difficult to ascertain exactly how many students were in the combined programs. In the three-year retrospective table, Section “A” shows that the programs matriculate about 9 students per year on average; yet in “B” the applicants report that they have a total of 72 Caucasian students, 21 under-represented minority students and 179 international students. However, table 11-GF indicates that in the combined overall program are 163 students, 21 under-represented minority students and 21 international students. The panel strongly suggests that the program focus considerable attention on the integration of application, enrollment and retention data before developing next year’s proposal. Despite the lack of clarity in the data, two points can be ascertained with certainty: these programs are successful in recruitment of under-represented minority students and they do well in retaining BoR fellows. It is of some concern that the time to degree appears to be fairly long (6-7 years). Looking to the future, these programs are committed to the integrative program, which should improve the number and quality of the applicants. Given its success in identifying excellent BoR fellows, the panel expects this group to continue to be successful. The applicants may wish to ponder the issue of the role of BoR GF funding in the suite of student support mechanisms available in this large integrative program and address it in the next proposal. Given the difficulties in understanding the status of the programs from the data presented, funding is recommended for only one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$28,000 per year.

**020GF-09 TULANE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**  
**“Superior Graduate Students in Neuroscience / 09-14”**  
**Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$28,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$28,000/annum for 4 years = \$224,000 TOTAL**

This is an excellent program with a strong faculty, and has consistently received BoR support. It consistently enrolls 20-25 students, of which a reasonable number are under-represented minorities. The proposal suggests that the number of applications is not small for the size of the program; however, an application pool of about 15 U.S. nationals for a matriculating group of about five students contradicts this assertion. It is important to note that the program’s students, including previous BoR fellows, graduate in a reasonable timeframe and there is no evidence of substantial attrition. The activities related to mentoring and tracking students are solid and likely explain why this program continues to be successful. The panel had some difficulty in determining whether medical insurance is provided for graduate students in the program. If insurance is not provided by the program or the institution, the panel urges that the program immediately address this issue, as it can strongly influence prospective students. Funding is recommended for two (2) doctoral-level fellowships at \$28,000 each per year.

**021GF-09 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE**  
**“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Computer Science and Computer Engineering”**  
**Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$25,000/annum for 4 years = \$100,000 TOTAL**

This proposal is to support students in graduate programs under the umbrella of the Center for Advanced Computer Studies (CACS), a strong center which provides significant educational and economic development opportunities to the State. The panel applauds the high percentage of women in the program, but also notes that recruitment of under-represented minority students seems to be ineffective. As the panel noted in last year’s competition, declining applications to the program as a whole may indicate a problem that the program must identify and correct. The panel is concerned that only seven of 16 faculty members appear to have external funding. More alarming is the apparent ratio of graduate students to faculty: 74 PhD students and 128 master’s students seems extremely disproportional to the 16 faculty identified in the proposal. Are students getting faculty time they need for proper mentoring? The text indicates that combined GRE scores are used in student selection, a practice strongly discouraged by ETS. The review team recommends that the program comply with ETS’s recommendations in the use of GRE test scores. Funding is recommended for one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$25,000 per year.

**022GF-09 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE**  
**“Recruitment of Superior Cognitive Science Graduate Students (2009)”**  
**Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,500/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: -0-**

This relatively new program presents an interesting and innovative approach to cognitive science that builds on strengths of the primate center, computer sciences, and computational cognitive psychology. To date, it seems to have a good record of student placements and publications. However, the program is extremely small – far smaller than the cutoff used in many states to determine program viability. Concern about program size is only compounded by a shrinking applicant pool and lack of an innovative recruitment plan, especially for students from diverse backgrounds. The proposal gives almost no attention to the potential contributions of the program and its doctoral students to economic development. Although students are encouraged to do summer internships at the Immersive Technologies Enterprise Center, much more could be undertaken to link programmatic activities to regional and State development. No funding is recommended.

**023GF-09 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE**  
**“Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Environmental and Evolutionary Biology for 2009”**  
**Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years = \$200,000 TOTAL**

This successful program in environmental and evolutionary biology involves more than 20 full-time faculty across a number of fields and approximately 50 students in research and study in areas that are increasingly important to Louisiana’s future. Students and faculty benefit from association with USGS National Wetlands Research Center and the NOAA center related to estuaries and fisheries, both of which are located on UL Lafayette’s campus. The department is highly respected; faculty members are active in their professional areas, with strong publication records and substantial success in attaining external funding. The program attracts high-quality students, but greater efforts should be made to increase the pool of U.S. applicants, in particular those from under-represented minority groups. UL Lafayette’s decision to provide higher stipends for doctoral students is a promising step in this direction, and data suggest a growing proportion of U.S. students among those enrolling. The program lacks a systematic, coordinated recruitment plan, but has identified creative strategies for building the numbers of minority applicants. The program has developed an admirable commitment to a shortened time to degree. The proposal could more explicitly articulate the value of the program to Louisiana’s economic development. Funding is recommended for two (2) doctoral-level fellowships at \$25,000 each per year.

**024GF-09 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE**  
**“Board of Regents Fellowships for the Applied Language and Speech Sciences PhD Program”**  
**Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$25,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: - 0 -**

This relatively new program appears to meet an important regional need for communication disorders professionals. The proposal creates an interesting economic development analysis of the potential impact of improved diagnosis and treatment of disorders such as aphasia and stuttering. The program, however, remains very small and its applicant pool has been shrinking in recent years. Little thought appears to have been given to creating the kind of innovative recruitment strategies that would be necessary to reverse this trend. This shortcoming is particularly troubling with respect to efforts to create a more diverse pool of applicants and matriculants. The field of communicative disorders is one for which federal research support is available and the program would be greatly strengthened if more faculty members were supporting full-time students on research contracts or grants. No funding is recommended.

**025GF-09 UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS**  
**“Recruit High Quality PhD Students in Political Science”**  
**Requested: 3 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$16,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: - 0 -**

This proposal builds on departmental strengths deriving from a strong survey research center which continues to provide important services to the New Orleans planning community in the post-Katrina environment. The primary limitation of the program is its small size. Although hiring plans are in place, there are currently only seven faculty members and the program has had a modest record of external funding, even pre-Katrina. It is difficult to determine the size of the doctoral program or its degree completion record, since data for master’s and doctoral students are combined. It appears, however, that several previous BoR fellows left the program without completing the degree and that virtually no attention has been given to creating the kind of innovative recruitment strategy that would be necessary to turn declining enrollment trends around. This shortcoming is particularly evident with respect to diversity efforts. It is absolutely unacceptable to use combined GRE scores as the selection criteria for fellows, since doing so contravenes ETS standards for the fair use of standardized test scores. Given the challenges facing the department and the university, it is unlikely that \$16,000 stipends will be sufficient to attract highly qualified applicants. No funding is recommended.

**026GF-09 UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS**  
**“Superior Graduate Fellows in Conservation Biology at the University of New Orleans”**  
**Requested: 2 Doctoral-Level Fellowships at \$26,000/annum for 4 years**

**Recommended: 1 Doctoral-Level Fellowship at \$26,000/annum for 4 years = \$104,000 TOTAL**

This program, focusing on biodiversity and conservation biology, was established less than ten years ago, and BoR fellowships have been instrumental in building the graduate program. Before 2005 it had experienced steady growth, but since then applications and enrollments have sharply declined. Since Hurricane Katrina, the department has successfully rebuilt its physical infrastructure and focused understandably on faculty retention and recruitment. There are 16 active research faculty members, who collectively have a strong record of publication and external funding. The quality of students recently recruited remains strong, retention and graduation rates are good given the circumstances, and there is considerable evidence of student research activity. The department is, however, justifiably concerned with building a critical mass of students in order to achieve stability. The department apparently has substantial minority enrollments at the BS and MS levels, but has had minimal success in recruiting minority PhD students, perhaps as a consequence of the relatively low level of stipends offered. The program does not appear to have a coherent recruitment strategy. The development of a clearer research mission and its linkages to Louisiana’s economic development might facilitate recruitment. The panel also expressed concern about the possible lack of alignment between the program focus and faculty research strengths, some of which appear to be

biomedical rather than conservation-oriented. Funding is recommended for one (1) doctoral-level fellowship at \$26,000 per year.

**027GF-09 UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS**  
**“Recruiting of Superior Graduate Students in Fine Arts”**  
**Requested: 5 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$15,000/annum for 3 years**

**Recommended: 3 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$15,000/annum for 3 years = \$135,000 TOTAL**

This well-established MFA program has a strong relationship to the New Orleans arts community and economy. The strength of the program is evidenced in continued steady enrollments in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Applications have remained strong and the program has continued to be quite selective. During the last two years, the department has succeeded in replacing equipment that experienced storm damage. The initial loss of faculty is now being reversed, and the department is recruiting new members. There are currently six active faculty members, generally with impressive records of artistic production and exhibition, locally and nationally. The department points with justified pride to the success of faculty and students and in particular to their links to the New Orleans arts scene. Given the clear potential importance of the arts in New Orleans’s recovery, the department might develop a more specific and aggressive engagement with regional economic development. The program has a persistent record of low to non-existent enrollment of under-represented minority students. More troubling is the seeming lack of concern regarding this situation and the concomitant lack of a strategy for change. The absence of minority engagement in the program is striking, given the tradition of artistic and cultural diversity in New Orleans. Funding is recommended for three (3) three-year master’s-level fellowships at \$15,000 each per year.

**001GFT-09 LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BATON ROUGE**  
**“Preparing Highly Qualified Teachers for the Mathematics and Science Classroom”**  
**Requested: 8 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$18,000/annum for 1 year**

**Recommended: 6 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$18,000/annum for 1 year = \$108,000 TOTAL**

Because of renewed commitment to developing a statewide and regional recruitment plan, the nationally recognized Holmes Program appears to have promise for increasing the number of graduate students enrolling in and completing its science and education tracks. The new Professional Education Unit plan for recruiting under-represented minority students should help to increase the diversity and the pool of highly qualified science and mathematics teachers in Louisiana. Selection criteria for fellows that appear to continue the use of combined (verbal plus quantitative) GRE scores is extremely distressing given that the practice is expressly prohibited by ETS in its documents detailing fair use of test scores; it is probably more distressing that this misuse takes place among educators who should be highly aware of the invidious consequences of doing so. The panel strongly urges the PIs to correct this error in the next proposal submission. Nevertheless, the program is moving in a positive direction and warrants support. Funding is recommended for six (6) one-year master’s-level fellowships at \$18,000 each.

**002GFT-09 McNEESE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**“Highly Qualified Teachers in the Mathematics and Science Classroom”**  
**Requested: 2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$23,000/annum for 1 year**

**Recommended: 2 Master’s-Level Fellowships at \$23,000/annum for 1 year = \$46,000 TOTAL**

The requirements and expectations for the teachers admitted to this program are extremely rigorous and promise to provide in-service teachers with significant additional training. The program targets in-service teachers, who enroll for one year and an additional summer. The students take a heavy load of courses during the first year, start their research, take their comprehensive exams, attend and present seminars, and do research over the first summer. These teacher-students then return to the classroom and work on their theses over the ensuing school year, completing work on the degree during the second summer. The high school teachers probably learn considerable amounts about chemistry they can take to the classroom, and it is admirable that in-service teachers are willing to undertake such a challenging program. The panel does wonder how much time these students have for significant research in the time allotted for the program. This is a secondary issue, however, and does not affect enthusiasm for the program as a whole. In previous awards the PIs have successfully recruited teachers. To date, two have graduated and no

fellowship recipients have left the program. This is commendable and suggests that this small group of chemistry faculty can succeed with this program over the long term. Funding is recommended for two (2) one-year master's-level fellowships at \$23,000 each.

## **APPENDIX C**

### **LISTS OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED**

**Traditional Graduate Fellows Program  
2007-08 Competition  
Proposals Submitted**

| <b>Proposal#/<br/>Discipline</b> | <b>PI Name(s)</b>   | <b>Institution</b> | <b>Proposal Title</b>  | <b>Duration</b>                                  | <b>Funds Requested</b>  |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|--|---|
| 001GF-09<br>ARTS                 | Lori Bade           | LSU-Baton Rouge    | Board of Regents Fellowships in the Arts   | 4 years/3 years<br>4 PhD @ \$16K<br>4 MA @ \$16K | Y1: \$128,000<br>Y2: \$128,000<br>Y3: \$128,000<br><u>Y4: \$ 64,000</u><br>Total: \$448,000 |
| 002GF-09<br>PHYS                 | Dana Browne         | LSU-Baton Rouge    | Graduate Fellows in Physics and Astronomy  | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$25K                         | Y1: \$75,000<br>Y2: \$75,000<br>Y3: \$75,000<br><u>Y4: \$75,000</u><br>Total: \$300,000     |
| 003GF-09<br>ENG                  | David Constant      | LSU-Baton Rouge    | Board of Regents Fellowships in Engineering 2009-14  | 4 years/2 years<br>2 PhD @ \$25K<br>2 MS @ \$20K | Y1: \$90,000<br>Y2: \$90,000<br>Y3: \$50,000<br><u>Y4: \$50,000</u><br>Total: \$280,000     |
| 004GF-09<br>CIS                  | Sundararaja Iyengar | LSU-Baton Rouge    | Recruitment of Superior Students to the Doctoral Program in Areas of Biomedical Information Processing: Data Fusion, Visualization and High-Speed Networking | 4 years<br>4 PhD @ \$25K                         | Y1: \$100,000<br>Y2: \$100,000<br>Y3: \$100,000<br><u>Y4: \$100,000</u><br>Total: \$400,000 |
| 005GF-09<br>HM                   | T. R. Klei          | LSU-Baton Rouge    | Graduate Studies in Comparative Biomedical, Pathobiological, and Veterinary Clinical Sciences  | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$25K                         | Y1: \$75,000<br>Y2: \$75,000<br>Y3: \$75,000<br><u>Y4: \$75,000</u><br>Total: \$300,000     |

|                  |                  |                    |  |  |   |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--|--|---|
| 006GF-09<br>SS   | Naci Mocan       | LSU-Baton Rouge    | The Need for Support of the Economics Program  | 4 years<br>2 PhD @ \$25K                         | Y1: \$50,000<br>Y2: \$50,000<br>Y3: \$50,000<br><u>Y4: \$50,000</u><br>Total: \$200,000     |
| 007GF-09<br>BIO  | Thomas S. Moore  | LSU-Baton Rouge    | Graduate Fellowships in Biological Sciences at Louisiana State University            | 4 years<br>4 PhD @ \$25K                         | Y1: \$100,000<br>Y2: \$100,000<br>Y3: \$100,000<br><u>Y4: \$100,000</u><br>Total: \$400,000 |
| 008GF-09<br>CHEM | George Stanley   | LSU-Baton Rouge    | Graduate Fellowships in Chemistry for 2009   | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$30K                         | Y1: \$90,000<br>Y2: \$90,000<br>Y3: \$90,000<br><u>Y4: \$90,000</u><br>Total: \$360,000     |
| 009GF-09<br>EAR  | R. Eugene Turner | LSU-Baton Rouge    | Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Earth, Ocean and Environmental Sciences | 4 years/2 years<br>5 PhD @ \$26K<br>4 MS @ \$24K | Y1: \$178,000<br>Y2: \$178,000<br>Y3: \$178,000<br><u>Y4: \$178,000</u><br>Total: \$712,000 |
| 010GF-09<br>BIO  | Emel Songu-Mize  | LSUHSC-New Orleans | Graduate Training in Integrative Pharmacological Sciences and Therapeutics           | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$25K                         | Y1: \$75,000<br>Y2: \$75,000<br>Y3: \$75,000<br><u>Y4: \$75,000</u><br>Total: \$300,000     |

|                  |                   |                    |   |                             |   |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| 011GF-09<br>ARTS | Marie Bukowski    | LA Tech University | Five MFA Program Graduate Fellowships   | 3 years<br>5 MA @ \$10K     | Y1: \$50,000<br>Y2: \$50,000<br><u>Y3: \$50,000</u><br>Total: \$150,000                 |
| 012GF-09<br>SS   | Mary Livingston   | LA Tech University | Meeting the Competition: Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students for the PhD Program in Counseling Psychology | 4 years<br>4 PhD @ \$20,800 | Y1: \$83,200<br>Y2: \$83,200<br>Y3: \$83,200<br><u>Y4: \$83,200</u><br>Total: \$332,800 |
| 013GF-09<br>HM   | Bala Ramachandran | LA Tech University | Graduate Fellows in Biomedical Engineering  | 4 years<br>2 PhD @ \$25K    | Y1: \$50,000<br>Y2: \$50,000<br>Y3: \$50,000<br><u>Y4: \$50,000</u><br>Total: \$200,000 |
| 014GF-09<br>ENG  | Bala Ramachandran | LA Tech University | Superior Graduate Fellows in Engineering  | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$25K    | Y1: \$75,000<br>Y2: \$75,000<br>Y3: \$75,000<br><u>Y4: \$75,000</u><br>Total: \$300,000 |
| 015GF-09<br>CHEM | Michael Herman    | Tulane University  | Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Chemistry  | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$28K    | Y1: \$84,000<br>Y2: \$84,000<br>Y3: \$84,000<br><u>Y4: \$84,000</u><br>Total: \$336,000 |

|                  |                |                   |  |                            |   |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| 016GF-09<br>ENG  | Gary McPherson | Tulane University | Graduate Fellowships in Support of Biomedical and Chemical/Biomolecular Engineering Education and Research | 4 years<br>6 PhD @ \$24K   | Y1: \$144,000<br>Y2: \$144,000<br>Y3: \$144,000<br><u>Y4: \$144,000</u><br>Total: \$576,000 |
| 017GF-09<br>SS   | Janet Ruscher  | Tulane University | Recruitment of Superior Graduates in Psychology  | 4 years<br>2 PhD @ \$18.5K | Y1: \$37,000<br>Y2: \$37,000<br>Y3: \$37,000<br><u>Y4: \$37,000</u><br>Total: \$148,000     |
| 018GF-09<br>PHYS | Frank Tipler   | Tulane University | Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Physics and Engineering Physics                               | 4 years<br>2 PhD @ \$25K   | Y1: \$50,000<br>Y2: \$50,000<br>Y3: \$50,000<br><u>Y4: \$50,000</u><br>Total: \$200,000     |
| 019GF-09<br>HM   | Robert Garry   | TUHSC             | Predocctoral Training in Biomedical Sciences   | 4 years<br>4 PhD @ \$28.5K | Y1: \$114,000<br>Y2: \$114,000<br>Y3: \$114,000<br><u>Y4: \$114,000</u><br>Total: \$456,000 |
| 020GF-09<br>BIO  | Bradley Taylor | TUHSC             | Superior Graduate Students in Neuroscience / 09-14   | 4 years<br>2 PhD @ \$28K   | Y1: \$56,000<br>Y2: \$56,000<br>Y3: \$56,000<br><u>Y4: \$56,000</u><br>Total: \$224,000     |

|                 |                   |                                      |  |                            |   |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| 021GF-09<br>CIS | Magdy A. Bayoumi  | University of Louisiana at Lafayette | Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Computer Science and Computer Engineering       | 4 years<br>2 PhD @ \$25K   | Y1: \$50,000<br>Y2: \$50,000<br>Y3: \$50,000<br><u>Y4: \$50,000</u><br>Total: \$200,000 |
| 022GF-09<br>SS  | Claude Cech       | University of Louisiana at Lafayette | Recruitment of Superior Cognitive Science Graduate Students (2009)                           | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$25.5K | Y1: \$76,500<br>Y2: \$76,500<br>Y3: \$76,500<br><u>Y4: \$76,500</u><br>Total: \$306,000 |
| 023GF-09<br>BIO | Paul L. Klerks    | University of Louisiana at Lafayette | Recruitment of Superior Graduate Students in Environmental and Evolutionary Biology for 2009 | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$25K   | Y1: \$75,000<br>Y2: \$75,000<br>Y3: \$75,000<br><u>Y4: \$75,000</u><br>Total: \$300,000 |
| 024GF-09<br>HM  | Nicole Mueller    | University of Louisiana at Lafayette | Board of Regents Fellowships for the Applied Language and Speech Sciences PhD Program        | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$25K   | Y1: \$75,000<br>Y2: \$75,000<br>Y3: \$75,000<br><u>Y4: \$75,000</u><br>Total: \$300,000 |
| 025GF-09<br>SS  | Michael Huelshoff | University of New Orleans            | Recruit High Quality PhD Students in Political Science                                       | 4 years<br>3 PhD @ \$16K   | Y1: \$48,000<br>Y2: \$48,000<br>Y3: \$48,000<br><u>Y4: \$48,000</u><br>Total: \$192,000 |

|                  |              |                           |  |                          |   |
|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|
| 026GF-09<br>BIO  | Bernard Rees | University of New Orleans | Superior Graduate Fellows in Conservation Biology at the University of New Orleans | 4 years<br>2 PhD @ \$26K | Y1: \$52,000<br>Y2: \$52,000<br>Y3: \$52,000<br><u>Y4: \$52,000</u><br>Total: \$208,000 |
| 027GF-09<br>ARTS | Jim Richard  | University of New Orleans | Recruiting of Superior Graduate Students in Fine Arts                              | 3 years<br>5 MA @ \$15K  | Y1: \$75,000<br>Y2: \$75,000<br><u>Y3: \$75,000</u><br>Total: \$225,000                 |

**PROGRAM SUMMARY**

**NUMBER OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED: 27**

- Arts: 3
- Biological Sciences: 5
- Chemistry: 2
- Computer & Information Sciences: 2
- Earth/Environmental Sciences: 1
- Engineering A&B: 3
- Health & Medical Sciences: 4
- Humanities: 0
- Physics/Astronomy: 2
- Social Sciences: 5

**FIRST-YEAR FUNDS REQUESTED: \$2,155,700**

**TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED: \$8,353,800**

**TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$720,000**

**Graduate Fellowships for Teachers Program  
2007-08 Competition  
Proposals Submitted**

| <b>Proposal#/<br/>Discipline</b> | <b>PI Name(s)</b> | <b>Institution</b>       | <b>Proposal Title</b>   | <b>Duration</b> | <b>Funds Requested</b> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------|------------------------|
| 001GFT-09                        | Byron Launey      | LSU-BR                   | Preparing Highly Qualified Teachers for the Mathematics and Science Classroom                             | 1 year          | \$144,000              |
| 002GFT-09                        | Joseph Sneddon    | McNeese State University | Graduate Fellowship Teachers Program for Master of Science Program in Environmental and Chemical Sciences | 1 year          | \$46,000               |

**PROGRAM SUMMARY**

**NUMBER OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED: 2**

**TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED: \$190,000**

**TOTAL FIRST-YEAR FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$180,000**